

**Park, Trails & Open Space Committee**  
**Wednesday, May 27, 2020**  
**6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**  
**Cottonwood Heights City Offices**

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**Attendees:** Ronna Cohen, Melissa Fields, Ben Hill, Erin Davis, Roger Kehr, Sarah Ricketts, Greg Hilbig, Kristy Morrison, Carl D (Dave) McFerren, Michael Johnson, Christine Mikell, Mike Menssen, Matt Taylor, Jennifer Shah,

**Not Present:** Matthew Dominesey, Greg Reid, Bruce Jorgensen,

**Discussion:**

**City staff/council updates**

Mike Johnson

- re: Mill Hollow Park and Butler Park: budget allocated for the city to take over maintenance of those parks
- Bike repair station installed at BCC park n ride trail head / Connector finished from park n ride near Porcupine Grill to Wasatch Blvd
- Wasatch Blvd Trailhead / dog park - did not receive UORG Grant, waiting on other opportunities for funding (next steps: public input / project engineering) estimate for dog park is about \$1.3 million, \$600k for parking and \$400-500k for park/retaining walls etc. + contingency amount
  - Melissa Fields: CMAQ funding has a consultant pool that UDOT authorizes, Blue Line Consultants is probably part of that group
  - CMAQ is a funding source (federal): Congestion Mitigation Air Quality
- Arbor Day Grant: \$800 grant - 15 trees between city hall and the rec center, finalizing date to plant the trees
- Doverhill Drive Church Properties (about 6 acres): rumors going around that the property is going up for sale, city made a call into their real estate representative, the property has become eligible to go through the process to be declared 'excess property' before it could be posted for sale, Mike made sure they know we are interested for various reasons / uses
  - Christine Mikell: what is the appraised value? The church's first step is to get a work order to move forward with an appraisal
  - Jenn Shah: if this property could be connected to the dog park parcel across Wasatch Blvd - is it possible to connect via a pedestrian walkway? Could that help us get funding for the dog park? Mike confirmed huge opportunity for connectivity with this sight

**Subcommittee/project reports**

**Ben Hill re: Service Area:** working with the city on acquisition of the two parks mentioned above

The rec center re-opened with the orange phase

June 1 will start their yellow phase including outdoor pool for open plunge

Their budget is based off revenue and membership so those 2 months of quarantine were tough

**Christine Mikell's updates from city council:**

Update on Utah Open Lands Acquisition,

- Jenn Shah: seems that all funding has been public funding, will that continue to be the trend? Or will private entities (large donations from corporate entities for example) be approached? Christine / Melissa were unsure, checking with Utah Open Lands

**BST, Greg Hilbig/Jenn Shah**

Mike Johnson received an update from Blue Line on the access plan - they are planning to have final draft for review in 2 weeks (week of June 8)

Melissa Fields - The US Forest Service is going to continue working on the BST route between BCC and LCC just with smaller crew

- There was some rogue trail building, that's a sensitive area, help spread word to NOT "help" build that trail unless working directly with USFS

Jenn Shah - signs of mtn bike trails being developed in privately held space behind church - proliferation of that kind of activity - please ask people to stop

**Adventure Walking Routes, Ronna Cohen**

Thanks to Melissa and Jenn - she has 7 walks with points of interest and maps

In the next week, Ronna is going to make assignments to each committee member. Everyone needs to walk their assigned route - is there enough info, too much info? Historical committee still working on a few more answers

**Utah Open Lands Open Space Campaign, Melissa Fields**

About \$700,000 from the finish line

Kuhl clothing pledged \$25k, hope that will mean more funds from the outdoor community (maybe Patagonia, REI etc)

\$200k challenge grant, if we match becomes \$400k

Waiting on another city entity to come up with more funds

New deadline is Sept 10

Utah Open Lands is looking to see how people can help without having in-home fundraisers

Previously talked about group donation - if you go into UOL website and hit donate, it asks for CC, leave a note saying CHPTOS committee and they will aggregate the amounts. If you already donated, email Wendy and ask her to include your amount to the committee total

CHParks & Rec donated \$5,000 to the cause

**Presentation of the goals and objectives of the city's Parks, Open Space, Trails and Urban Forest Masterplan, Mike Johnson and Matt Taylor**

Over the last year or so they've been putting together info for the PTOS master plan

Goal tonight: Matt wants to spend time to get our feedback on background and context  
Matt took us thru his PowerPoint

- More in depth on Outcomes & Goals

Questions or Feedback:

- Jenn Shah - a plan like this is a great idea, glad city is working on it
- Melissa Fields - not sure it's referred to as Mtn Accord - think it's now Central Wasatch Commission. Matt will fix
- Melissa Fields - in terms of other plans and docs that were consulted, maybe BST Alignment Plan for Salt Lake County should be considered, Matt will look into it
- Ronna - does CH skew to older population because of senior housing facilities - Matt thinks we do in general and can dig deeper - survey shows CH is more active and healthy than many other cities in the state
- CH skews higher income compared to county in general

Matt trying to get done as fast as possible, will present more next meeting

Send feedback on goals to Melissa, she will aggregate and send to Matt

### **Discussion and recommendation to the City Council on the proposed tree and park strip landscaping ordinance**

Priority came from city council

Desired outcomes

- Preserve and increase tree coverage
- Increase sustainability
- Enhance environment, aesthetics and character of the city
- Encourage city-resident participation and partnerships

City's responsibilities - care for trees within public parks and facilities, pruning for snowplow removal clearance and sight distance issues etc

Citizen's responsibilities - care for park strip in front of home, follow tree protection property

Establishes provisions for the city to mitigate, abate, correct or remove hazardous trees

- Ronna - 10 years ago there was a campaign to "rip the strip" and put in concrete, what happened to that campaign? Matt - campaign is being updated, more benefits from having trees in the strip
- Jenn Shah - what is the basis for 1 tree for 25 ft? Basing it on average width of CH lots
- Melissa Fields - what is Matt looking for? Is he looking for recommendations from our committee? What are voting on? City wants a recommendation from committee before they vote
- Jenn - wants to encourage more drought tolerant trees - Matt they can highlight/encourage drought tolerant tree species
- Greg H - encourage diversity in trees,

Committee voted. All present voted Yes. Send additional feedback to Melissa by June 3rd

### **Action items**

**Ronna - will make assignments for walking roots**

**Feedback for tree ordinance by next Wednesday, June 3rd**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 24, 2020**